

THE  
TENTH CHAPTER <sup>ml</sup>  
OF THE  
STATUTE

Made in the  
TWENTY THIRD YEAR  
OF

King Henry

THE  
SIXTH.

Concerning the *Extortious Fees* of Sheriffs, Bayliffes, Jaylors, and other  
OFFICERS.

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LONDON,  
Printed in the year, MDCXLI.



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## CHAP. X.

**W**hen the King considering the great Perjury, Extortion, and Oppression which be, and have been in this Realm by his Sheryffs, Under-sheryffs, and their Clerks, Coroners, Stewards of Franchises, Bayliffs, and Keepers of Prisons, and other Officers in divers Counties of this Realm, hath ordained by Authority aforesaid, in eschewing of all such Extortion, Perjury, and Oppression, that no Sheryffe shall let his County, nor any of his Balpywkes, hundredes, nor Clapentakes, nor that the said Sheryffs, Under-sheryffs, Bayliffs of franchises, nor any other Bayliffe shall return upon any Writ or Precept to them directed to be returned, any Enquests in any Panel thereupon to be made, any Balpyffs, Officers, or Servants to any of the Officers, or Servants to any of the Servants aforesaid in any Panel by them so to be made, nor that none of the Officers and Ministers, by occasion, or under colour of their office, shall take any other thing by them, nor by none other person to their use, profit, or avail of any person by them, or any of them to be arrested or



attached, nor of none other for them, for the let-  
 ting of any Arrest, or Attachment to be made  
 by their body, or of any person by them, or a-  
 ny of them, by force or colour of their office ar-  
 rested, or attached, for fine, fee, Suit of Pri-  
 son, main prise, letting to Bail, or the giving a-  
 ny ease or favour to any such person so arrested,  
 or to be arrested, for their reward, or profit,  
 except such as followeth, that is to say, for  
 the Sheryffe xxd. The Bayliffe which maketh  
 the arrest or attachment, four pence: And the  
 Baylor, if the Prisoner be committed to  
 his Ward, 4d. And that the Sheriffe,  
 Undersheriffe, Sheriffes-Clerk, Steward,  
 or Bayliffe of Franchise, servant or Bay-  
 liffe, nor Coroner, shall take any thing  
 by colour of his office, by him, nor by none other  
 person to his use, of any person, for the making of  
 any return or panel: And for the Copy of a  
 Panel, 4d. And that the said Sheriffs, and  
 all other Officers, and Ministers aforesaid,  
 shall let out of prison, all manner of persons  
 by them, or any of them to be arrested, or being  
 in their custody by force of any Writ, Byle, or  
 Warrant, in any Action personal, or by cause  
 of indictment of trespass, upon reasonable sure-  
 ties of sufficient persons, having sufficient with-  
 in the Counties, where such persons be so let  
 to Bail, or main prise, to keep their dayes in  
 such places, as the said Writs, Byles, or War-  
 rantes shall require. Such person, or persons  
 which be, or shall be in their ward by condemnati-  
 on



on, execution, Capias Utlagatum, or Excommu-  
 nicatum, Surety of the peace, and all such persons  
 which be, or shall be committed to ward, and by  
 especial commandment of any Justice, and ba-  
 gabondes refusing to serve after the form of the  
 Statute of Laborers, only except. And that no  
 Sheryff, nor none of his Officers, or Mini-  
 sters aforesaid, shall take, or do to be taken, or  
 make any obligation for any cause aforesaid, or  
 colour of their office, but alonly to themselves of  
 any person, nor by any person which shall be in  
 their ward by the Course of the Law, but upon  
 the name of their office, and upon condition that  
 the said prisoners shall appear at the day con-  
 tained in the said Writs, Bills, or Warrants, and  
 in such places as the said Writs, Bills, or War-  
 rants shall require. And if any of the said She-  
 riffs, or other Officers, or Ministers aforesaid,  
 take any obligation in other form, by colour of  
 their offices, that it shall be void. And that he  
 shall take no more for the making of any such  
 Obligation, Warrant, or Precept by them to  
 be made, but 4 d. And also that every of the  
 said Sheryffs shall make yearly a Deputy in  
 the Kings Courts of his Chancery and Bench,  
 and in the Exchequer of Record, before that they  
 shall return any Writs, to receive all manner  
 of Writs and Warrants to be delivered to them.  
 And that all Sheriffs, and Undersheriffs, Clerks,  
 Bayliffs, Taylers, Coroners, Stewards, Bay-  
 liffs of franchyses, or any other Officers or  
 Ministers, which do contrary to this Ordinance in  
 any



any point of the same, shall lose to the party in this behalf indamaged, or grieved his treble damages, and shall forfeit the sum of 40 l. at every time that they, or any of them do the contrary thereof in any point of the same, whereof the King shall have the one half to be employed to the use of his house, and in no otherwise, and the party that will sue, the other half. And that the Justices of Assizes in their Sessions, Justices of the one Bench, and of the other, and Justices of Peace in their Countrey, shall have Power to enquire, hear, and determine of Offence, without especial commission, of, and upon all them that do contrary to these Ordinances in any article, or point of the same. And if the said Sheriffs return upon any person, Capi Corpus, or Reddedit, so that they shall be chargeable to have the bodies of the said persons at the daies of the Returns of the said Writs, Bills or Warrants, in such form as they were before the making of this Act. Provided alwayes, that the Warden of the Kings Jail of the Fleet, and of the Kings Paleys at Westminster for the time being, shall not be endamaged, nor prejudiced by this Ordinance in his Duty of his Office. And also, that this Ordinance shall begin at the Feast of Easter, which shall be in the year of our Lord, An. M.CCCC. xlii.

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**W**Hereas upon complain  
made of the great Extor-  
tion committed by many wicked per-  
sons in the Kingdom of *England*, and  
Dominion of *Wales*, against the  
Statute of 23 *H. 6.* concerning *Ex-  
tortious Fees* taken by Sheryffes, Bay-  
liffes, Jaylors, &c It hath pleased His  
Majesty, under His royal signature,  
to impower, authorize and appoint  
*William* Lord Viscount *Stafford*, and  
Colonel *William Doughty*, their De-  
puties and Assigns, to prosecute all  
Offendors against the said Statute :

All persons are desir'd to take notice,  
that the Office appointed in that behalf  
for the City of *London*, is kept at the  
*Golden Ball* in the little *Old Bayly*;  
whither all persons may repair to  
complain, and have redress against  
such Extortioners.